



William Barton

1646 Fish Creek Road , Poland, Indiana 47868

February 17, 2005 09:47 AM

The Federal Communications Commission

Subject: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service -- Docket 96-45

Dear The Federal Communications Commission:

I do not want to pay an unfair charge for my telephone service! I urge you to reject a flat fee proposal that would change how contributions are made to the Universal Service Fund. I am concerned that this proposal could make my current service unaffordable.

Under the flat fee proposal you are considering, though I make few long distance calls I would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. In other words, low-volume and primarily residential customers would bear the same universal service fund burden as a high-volume residential or business customers. This is unfair!

I use my wireless phone for safety, emergencies and when my rural telephone wiring is out of service in this rural area. I don't want to lose these benefits so that big businesses can pay less than their fair share. I urge you to reject the proposal to move the USF collection system to a flat-fee.

Keep the USF Fair!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Barton".

William Barton
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